



# THE CHURCH CHIMES

Peters Creek Evangelical Presbyterian Church • PO Box 184 • Venetia, PA 15367

April 2017



## **Palm Sunday Worship**

April 9, 11:00 a.m.

Members of the Children's choir will be joining the adults in a Palm Sunday Processional at the opening of service. The Chimes will be ringing a Palm Sunday Medley of songs during the offertory.



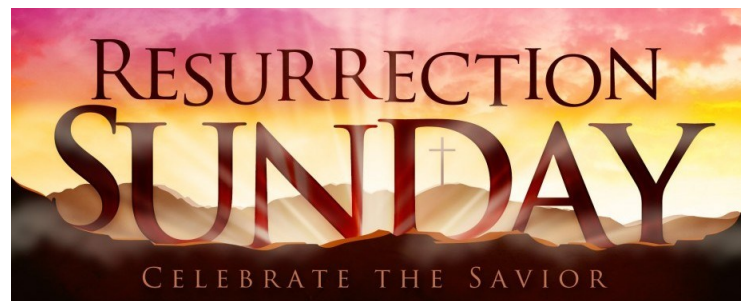
## **Easter Egg Hunt and Church Family Brunch**

Sunday, April 16, 9:45 a.m.



## **Maundy Thursday Service**

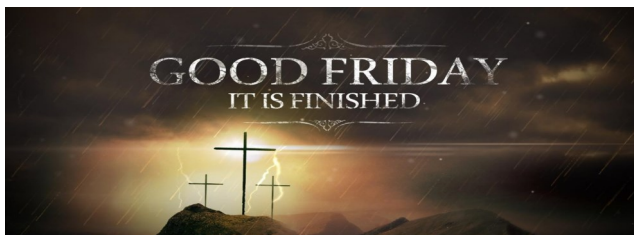
April 13, 7:00 p.m.  
St. David's Parish Hall



## **Easter Sunday Worship**

April 16, 11:00 a.m.

Special music will be provided by the Adult and Children's Choirs of PCEPC. We will be graced by the talents of guest brass soloists, Stephen Knott and Zachary Peaslee, performance majors at West Virginia University.



## **Good Friday Service**

April 14, Noon  
Our Redeemer Lutheran  
Route 19 in McMurray



*Timothy do not be ashamed to testify about our Lord, or ashamed of me his prisoner. But join with me in suffering for the gospel, by the power of God, who has saved us and called us to a holy life — not because of anything we have done but because of his own purpose and grace. This grace was given us in Christ Jesus before the beginning of time, but it has now been revealed through the appearing of our Savior, Christ Jesus, who has destroyed death and has brought life and immortality to light through the gospel. (2 Tim 1:8-11 NIV)*

**B**oth my wife's siblings, my brother-in-law and sister-in-law live in Cologne, Germany. In that city are a number of fine churches, including the massive Cologne Cathedral which dominates the city center. Not too far away there is a church building that has been designated as a Minor Basilica, named St. Ursula's. Every time we visit it seems we end up there, mainly to have a meal in the café next to the courtyard.

What makes St. Ursula's church so interesting is that it was built over an old Roman cemetery. Legend has it that St. Ursula and 11,000 virgins were martyred in Cologne by the Huns and their remains were interred in this cemetery. When the church was built, a mass of bones was discovered. They were thought to be those of the martyred Ursula and her virgin companions. Instead of reburial of the remains, they arranged the bones in geometric patterns along the walls in side rooms next to the sanctuary. Many think the remains of saints, especially martyred ones, have some sort of supernatural power. I have to admit, as a Protestant, this is over-the-top veneration. There is no efficacy in human bones. But the thought behind it is a belief and hope in the resurrection.

In Jerusalem, on the western slope of the Mount of Olives, directly

across from the city's eastern gate, is the largest Jewish cemetery in the world. For thousands of years Jewish people have been buried there because of the belief that this is the spot where the trumpet of the final judgment and general resurrection would be sounded. The idea being that whoever is buried here, will rise from the dead first!

This just goes to show the fascination we have with life and death and with life after death. We have a natural intuition that this life is not all there is. Werner von Braun, the famous rocket scientist, believed in life after death because it was "essentially scientific." He stated: "Science has found that nothing can disappear without a trace. Nature does not know extinction. All it knows is transformation. If God applies the fundamental principle to the most minute and insignificant parts of the universe, doesn't it make sense that He applies it to the masterpiece of His creation, the human soul? I think it does."

Paul speaks of the resurrection of the dead as transformation from death to life. It happens in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye. The dead in Christ shall rise first, those who are alive on the earth will be changed. The corruptible puts on the immortal. That's what Easter is all about for us, Jesus destroyed death and brought immortality to

light!

One day, the bones in St. Ursula's Basilica, and in cemeteries along the Mount of Olives will rattle, shake, be gathered together and be changed by the power of God in Jesus Christ!

Paul, whom I call the Apostle of the resurrection, instructed Timothy, "It has now been revealed through the appearing of our Savior, Christ Jesus, who has destroyed death and has brought life and immortality to light through the gospel. (2 Tim 1:10 NIV)

It is Important to note in what Paul writes, "Jesus Christ has destroyed death ...," that the Greek word for destroyed means to "reduce to a state of inactivity." More importantly, it is a participle which has the force of past completed action! That means it has already happened. What Paul is driving at is that the terror and sting of death is taken away from the believer. We die, but we are with Christ. Our bodies waste away, but the God who created the world out of nothing will transform our corruption into everlasting life.

That's what we celebrate at Easter, Jesus rose from the dead. He brought life and immortality to light.

Your Pastor and Friend,  
Doug Brandt





## Music Ministry Happenings in April:

**April 2:** The adult choir presents special music for Communion Sunday.

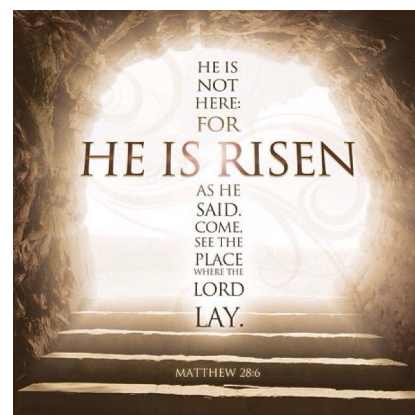
**Palm Sunday:** The children's choir joins the adult choir in a Palm Sunday processional. Special music is presented by the PCEPC Chimes ringers.

**Holy Thursday:** Special music presented by the adult choir.

**Good Friday:** Members of the adult choir join their voices with area choirs in a community Good Friday service at Our Redeemer Lutheran Church, Route 19, McMurray, PA, at Noon.

**Easter Sunday:** Special music by guest brass soloists, and the adult and children's choirs.

**April 23:** The children's choir continues to sing God's praises in special music for the Easter season.



### **Palm Sunday Worship April 9, 11:00 a.m.**

John 12:9-26  
*The Pomp & Circumstance  
of the Cross*  
Rev. Doug Brandt

### **Easter Sunday Worship April 16, 11:00 a.m.**

John 20:19-31  
*Bushels of Doubt, Oodles of Grace!*  
Rev. Doug Brandt





# *Celebrate the Risen Savior*

## **Easter Sunrise Service**

*Hosted by:*

**BEINHAUER**  **& WOODRUFF**   
Family Funeral Homes Memorial Park


*Please join us for a community-wide,  
inter-denominational sunrise service in the cemetery.*

**April 16, 2017 at 7 a.m.**

**2095 Washington Road. Canonsburg**

*Refreshments will follow service.*

*For more information, please call 724-745-7008*





# Children's Ministry News



## Chicken, and Cats, and Dogs, o My!

16 of us went on the children's **"Chicken, and Cats, and Dogs, o My!"** excursion on Saturday, **March 25**. The event had that title because we began the outing with a chicken lunch at *Chick-fil-A* in Washington. From there, we went to the *Washington Area Humane Society* in Eighty-Four, for a tour and an educational presentation on the animals in the shelter, as well as on animals the children might encounter at home or in the wild. -- Did you know the Humane Society has space for 60 dogs and 85 cats? And that they have also, at times, housed other animals, such as deer, rabbits, snakes, and even a bull?! ....We are grateful for all God's creatures, and especially grateful for dedicated people such as the staff at the *Washington Area Humane Society*, who take good care of animals in search of a forever home!



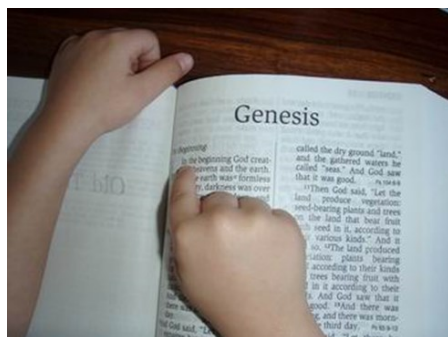




The next big event on the calendar will, of course, be our annual **Easter Egg Hunt and Church Family Brunch**. We hope to see all of you at 9:45 a.m. on **Easter Sunday morning**, rain or shine! There will be music, delicious food, and children's games and crafts, staffed by some of our kindhearted youth group members. The Egg Hunt is scheduled to begin at 9:55; the celebration is slated to last throughout the hour until 10:45 a.m. (since there will be no Sunday School on Easter Sunday).

After the Church Family Brunch, we will thank God for the Resurrection, and for our Hope beyond this world, in our **Special Easter Sunday Worship Service at 11 a.m.**

During both the Celebration and the Worship Times, our **nursery will be open upstairs** – in the "purple room" (see color of the door frame!). The purple room is the next room past the "red room", where **Children's Church** will be held during the 11 o'clock hour.



Another special worship service is being planned for **Sunday, May 21!** Between now and then, the youth and children of PCEPC will be working together to prepare a special **Young People's Worship Service**. Every youth and child will have a chance to take a part in leading our worship on that Sunday. For questions, please email Marion ([marion@peterscreekchurch.org](mailto:marion@peterscreekchurch.org)) or Katie ([katie@peterscreekchurch.org](mailto:katie@peterscreekchurch.org))!



And, finally -- yes, plans are in full swing for the SUMMER: During the **week of July 10**, St. David's church will turn into **HERO CENTRAL**, our **Vacation Bible School 2017** (Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday)!

Children and leaders will find out how to be *super heroic* through God's strength!

Registration open is open now! To register, please go to [www.peterscreekchurch.org](http://www.peterscreekchurch.org)...; click "children", then click "vacation bible school", and find where it says "Please register... by clicking here!"

**Youngest VBS students:** Children who are **4 years old** and have previous experience with a structured learning environment (preschool, Sunday School, etc.) are eligible.

**Oldest VBS students:** Youngsters who have **completed the fifth grade** are eligible.

**Youngest VBS leaders:** Young people who have **completed the sixth grade**.

**Oldest VBS leaders: NO limit!!**

>>....Which group are **YOU** in...?! ;)

(Leaders may sign up for one, two, three, *or* all four days... and may either work "behind the scenes", or "hands-on" with children!)

Please email [katie@peterscreekchurch.org](mailto:katie@peterscreekchurch.org) with your questions or to sign up, so the volunteer schedule can be tailored "just right" to fit your plans!

*"Power Up – Do Good!"*

*Yours, in Him,  
Katie*



If you know of anyone who would benefit from a contact or visit from the Care Team please contact a member listed below:

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## Church Staff

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Maura Kelly  
Director of Accounting  
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Jennifer Such  
Administration & Communications  
jenn@peterscreekchurch.org

### Publication Deadlines

Articles for the Church Chimes and announcements for the bulletin should be submitted in electronic format.

Submissions for the Chimes are due no later than noon on the 15th of each month for the following month's edition.

Sunday Bulletin Submissions are due no later than noon each Wednesday.



Join the men for breakfast on Saturday, April 8 at 9:00 a.m. at the Eat and Park in Peters. We meet the second Saturday of each month. All men are welcome!

### Peters Creek Evangelical Presbyterian Church

A Congregation of the  
Evangelical Presbyterian Church  
724-941-6210  
www.peterscreekchurch.org